(b) CSIR PATENTS FILED AND GRANTED DURING LAST DECADE

Year	India		Foreign	
	Filed	Granted	Filed	Granted
1993-94	198	80	17	12
1994-95	241	104	29	10
1995-96	260	106	58	14
1996-97	209	92	70	15
1997-98	264	155	94	24
1998-99	310	134	112	38
1999-2000	377	112	199	35
2000-2001	410	117	452	56
2001-2002	410	341	580	86
2002-2003	421	166	728	189
TOTAL	3100	1407	2339	479

(c) During the period over 326 patents have been licensed and 224 patents have been commercialized.

Investment on R&D by companies

1988. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 86 per cent of Indian companies invest nothing on Research and Development;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to make it mandatory for companies to spend some of the profits of the companies on Research and Development;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) has not carried out any survey of companies with regard to their R&D units of industry and as on 30th November 2003, 1160 in-house R&D units of industry were recognized with DSIR. However, some reports in the print media have quoted a study conducted by Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad pointing out that about 86 per cent of 8334 Indian companies did not report any spending on R&D in their annual reports for the year 2001-02. Accordingly to the ASCI study, out of 8334 firms, only 644 firms reported to be actively involved in R&D, apparently because they have a strategic intent of remaining competitive in the face of increasing competition. The R&D investments have been focussed mainly in the pharmaceuticals, software and automobiles sectors.

(c) to (e) Although Government has announced a number of fiscal incentives and support measures from time-to-time to encourage industry towards enhanced R&D expenditure as a percentage of sales turnover, it does not propose to make it mandatory for companies to spend some of their profits on R&D.

Research and Development activities of companies are primarily driven by market forces and competition and Government only acts as a facilitator to promote and encourage R&D by industry. Some of the fiscal incentives and support measures provided by Government for R&D include: write off of capital expenditure on R&D; weighted tax deduction of 125% for sponsored research programmes in approved national laboratories, universities etc.; weighted tax deduction @ 150% on R&D expenditure to companies engaged in the business of biotechnology or in the business of manufacture or production of drugs, pharmaceuticals, electronic equipment, computers, telecommunication equipment and chemicals and manufacture of aircrafts and helicopters in Government approved in-house R&D centres; income-tax exemption @ 125% to donations made to approved Scientific and Industrial Research Organisations; accelerated depreciation allowance for investment on plant and machinery made on the basis of indigenous technology; excise

duty exemption for three years on goods designed and developed by a wholly owned Indian company and patented in any two countries out of India, USA, Japan and any one country of European Union; and support in the form of loans/grants for industrial R&D through Government schemes such as, Technology Development Board, Home Grown Technology scheme of DST and Technology Development Programme of DSIR.

Establishing more DNA testing laboratories

1989. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether DNA technique is now much in demand to bust crimes;

(b) whether there are only four Government laboratories to conduct the tests in the country; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to establish more such Labs all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, DNA Fingerprinting technique is now more and more in demand for criminal investigations.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. There are more than four Government Laboratories which are regularly undertaking DNA fingerprinting. They are Centre for DNA Fingerprinting & Diagnostics (CDFD), Hyderabad; Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), Kolkata; Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), Chandigarh; State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL), Chennai; State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL), Ahmedabad; State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL), Hyderabad; State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL), Maharashtra; Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, and Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), Government of NCT of Delhi. Under the scheme of modernization of Police forces, the Ministry of Home Affairs is supporting the State Governments to start DNA Fingerprinting technique in State Forensic Science Laboratories.